(b) whether the sale, resale and transfer of these Speial Bearer Bonds has been permitted; and

(c) if so, what is the number of Special Bearer Bonds sold, transferred since introduction till June, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) 9,64,450 pieces of Special bearer bonds worth Rs. 964.45 crores were sold during the periods 2-2-1981 to 30-4-1981 and 1-12-1981 to 9-1-1982. The bonds are transferable. As these are bearer bonds the transfer of bonds from one holder to another is not required to be registered with the Public Debt Offices.

Trade ties with Saudi Arabia, Iran, Nigeria, and Kuwait

2354. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to improve the trade ties with Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Nigeria and Kuwait; and

(b) what are the details of trade activities between India and the above countries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Among the various measures taken to improve our trade ties with these countries, the more important ones are the following:—

(1) A new export promotion and marketing strategy for Indian goods has been drawn up. Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait and Nigeria have been identified as thrust markets for intensive export promotion efforts. Similarly, thrust commodities/product groups have been identified and special measures are proposed to promote their exports.

(2) Possibilities of link deals involving linkage of exports with imports, within the framework of the existing policy, are being explored.

(3) It is proposed to participate in the Baghdad International Trade Fair proposed to be held in November, 1985. A wholly Indian exhibition is also proposed to be held in Riyad/Jeddah this year. Apart from this the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India (HHEC) proposes to organise a Jewellery exhibition in Kuwait.

(4) Special attention is being paid to promote project exports and joint ventures in these countries.

(b) The trade flows between India and these countries have been as follows:—

(*Value in Rs. Crores*)

Country	1981-82		1982-83		1983-84	
	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.
Saudi Arabia . . .	180	830	227	1496	240	1128
Iraq	85	404	57	884	54	699
Kuwait	133	278	129	282	115	247
Nigeria	65	8	60	..	40	1